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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/585,243	05/31/2000	Takao Yamamoto	39303.2014800	4247

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EXAMINER

WITKOWSKI, STANLEY J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2837

DATE MAILED: 03/14/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/585243

Applicant(s)

Yamamoto

Examiner

Witkowski

Art Unit

2837

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10-25-01

2a) ☐ This action is FINAL.

2b) ☒ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are rejected.

7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved.

12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

13) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of:

1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

15) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

18) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____

16) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

19) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

17) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____

20) ☐ Other: _____

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1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 9-14, 22 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being fully met by Franz et al.

The Franz insertable card reads on applicant's extension board and with the first organ reads on applicant's expander and first tone generator. Prescribed elements of musical tones are transferred to execute new functions to another card in another organ or second tone generator. Prescribed elements transferred include tone formation and different effects including tone color, envelope curve, tremolo, percussion effect, piano effect, vibrato, Hawaiian effect and others. Stored programs may be read out in a predetermined sequence. See column 6, lines 20-25. This would provide a sequence of tones for an arpeggio pattern, melody or rhythm.

3. Claims 1-8, 15-21, 23-25, 27 and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being fully met by Franz et al.

The Franz insertable card reads on applicant's extension board. Stored information is readout providing expansion of prescribed elements of musical tones providing new functions which are executed. The new functions are actuated by operators and sent to another organ. Prescribed elements transferred include tone formation and different effects including tone color, envelope curve, tremolo, percussion effect, piano effect, vibrato, Hawaiian effect and others.


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Stored programs may be read out in a predetermined sequence. See column 6, lines 20-25. This would provide a sequence of tones for an arpeggio pattern, melody or rhythm. When the two organs are played together, a mixture of first and second tones is provided.

4. The examiner sincerely regrets the rejection of previously allowed subject matter.
5. Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Stanley J. Witkowski at telephone number (703) 308-3101.

Witkowski/ds

03/08/02



Stanley J. Witkowski
Primary Examiner